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ABSTRACT

An overview is provided of the activities of the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Community College System (ICCS) through the use of graphs, tables, statistical data, and vignettes. The first section offers brief biographical statements about the Illinois Community College Board's 12 members. The next section provides a snapshot of ICCS enrollments, which account for approximately 65% of all students in Illinois public higher education. A section on the ICCS's financial resources identifies state grants, local taxes, and student tuition and fees as the three major funding sources and indicates that expenditures for instruction comprise 51.4% of the colleges' operating expenditures. After summarizing system expenditures for facilities maintenance, the report discusses accountability initiatives, such as educational guarantees, enhanced statutory responsibilities, and rewards for excellence. The next sections focus on accountability, articulation between two- and four-year institutions, substance abuse prevention efforts, teaching and learning research, and the development of a statewide telecommunications network. Next, the accomplishments of the ICCS in workforce preparation are highlighted, indicating that approximately 272,000 students are enrolled annually in occupational education, comprising 39% of all community college students and 56% of those who earn degrees. Literacy, opportunities, and job training programs are also described. The final section reviews three areas (telecommunications, workforce preparation, and accountability) that will be emphasized in the near future. A directory of Illinois community colleges is attached. (MAB)

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Illinois Community College Board

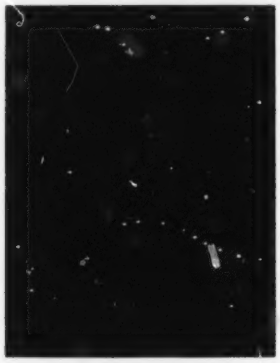
Harry L. Crisp II
Chairman of the ICCB since 1989. He is President and Chief Executive Officer of Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, Marion. Mr. Crisp is a businessman committed to the future of higher education in Illinois and nationwide. He also serves on the Illinois Board of Higher Education and was a founding member of the Board of Trustees of John A. Logan College in Carterville. Mr. Crisp is the founder of the Illinois Community College System Foundation.

Robert E. Sechler
Vice Chairman of the ICCB since 1988 – Mr. Sechler has served on the ICCB since 1983. He was a founding member of the Board of Trustees of Rock Valley College in Rockford and is Vice Chairman of the State Universities Retirement System Board. Mr. Sechler is a retired insurance executive.

E.D. (Dave) Davis
Appointed to the ICCB in 1987. Mr. Davis is the Manager of Personnel Administration at Deere & Company in Moline. He was a member of the University of Illinois Private Sector Board for five years and served as a member of the Society for Human Resource Management. Mr. Davis is a co-founder of the Illinois Community College System Foundation.

Gwendolyn DuBose Laroche
Appointed to the ICCB in 1992. She has held the position of Director of Education at the Chicago Urban League for the past 12 years. Ms. Laroche has been an advocate of education for all ages for 35 years. She is a board member of The Children's Museum of Chicago and The League of Black Women.

Judith E. Madonia
Appointed to the ICCB in 1989. She has held the office of Springfield City Treasurer for nine years. Ms. Madonia served for 15 years as trustee for Lincoln Land Community College. Her efforts on behalf of American community colleges have been commended by U.S. Senator Paul Simon.



Delores S. Ray
Has served on the ICCB for the past 13 years. Ms. Ray is the Executive Director of the Comprehensive Mental Health Center of St. Clair County, Inc. She is a member of the Head Start Project Social Service Advisory Committee in East St. Louis and serves on the Board of Directors of Storman Stufflin School

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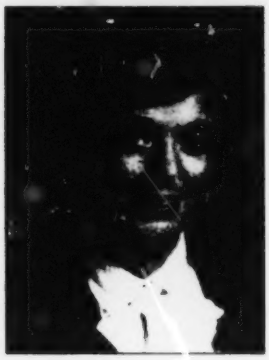
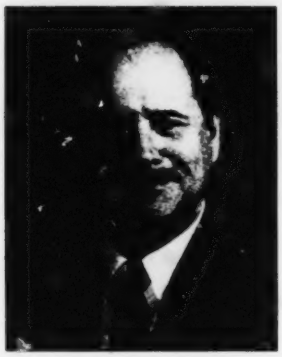
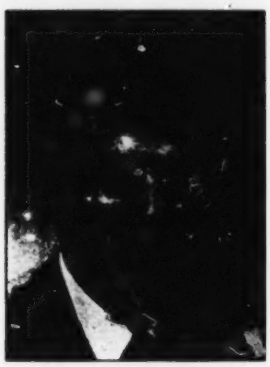


Miriam Lugo-Gonzalez
Appointed to the ICCB in 1988. Ms. Gonzalez also represents the ICCB on the Midwest Higher Education Commission. She is President of Gonzalez, Ltd., a management and development consulting firm in Chicago. Ms. Gonzalez developed and implemented statewide educational programs for youth and adults and has influenced state and local legislation on Hispanic and women's issues.

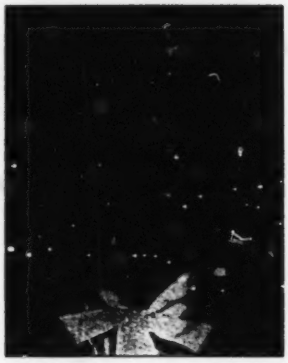
Toussaint L. Hale, Jr.
Served on the ICCB for the last 20 years. He is Vice President of Knickerson Financial Center of the First National Bank in Chicago and associate faculty member of Walter E. Helier College of Business at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Since 1985, he has chaired the Constitutional Rights Foundation Board of Chicago.



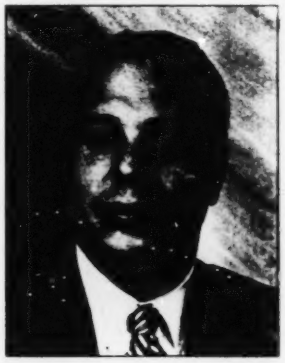
Joel W. Jennings
Served on the ICCB for the past 12 years. He is founder and President of Midwest Planning and Insurance Associates in Metropolis, a personal and business financial planning company. Mr. Jennings is a co-founder of the Illinois Community College System Foundation.



John M. Schultz
Appointed to the ICCB in 1990. He is founder and President of Agracel, Inc., in Effingham, an investment banking company specializing in agriculture and President of FaxTODAY, a nationwide daily electronic newspaper also based in Effingham. He also serves on the Boards of Directors of Akra Builders, Inc., of Effingham and the Effingham State Bank.



Rosemary S. Ziska
Has served on the ICCB since 1982. Mrs. Ziska is a journalist, speaker, historian, and book reviewer in the Wheaton community. She also is Director of the DuPage Heritage Gallery. Mrs. Ziska is a retired Executive Director of the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce.



Cary A. Israel
Executive Director of the ICCB since 1991. He was formerly President of Front Range Community College in Westminster, Colorado. Dr. Israel has been appointed to the Illinois Literacy Council by Governor Jim Edgar and to the Rural Library Panel by Secretary of State George Ryan. He serves on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

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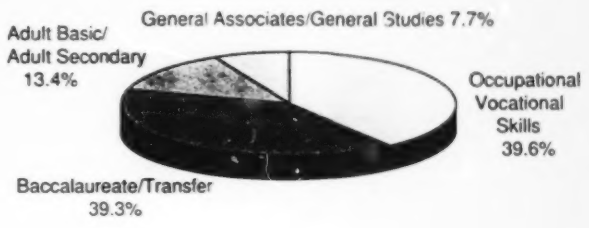
System Snapshot

There are 40 community college districts and 49 community colleges in the state of Illinois.

Every year, the Illinois community college system enrolls nearly a million students. The number of students attending credit courses has increased for eight consecutive years.

Community colleges enroll approximately 65 percent of all students in Illinois public higher education.

Program Profile



STUDENT PROFILE

ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Out of all African-American and Hispanic students enrolled in Illinois higher education, community colleges enroll 70 and 82 percent, respectively.

Asian/Pacific Islander	4.1 percent
American Indian/Alaskan	0.4 percent
African-American	14.2 percent
Hispanic	9.4 percent
White	71.6 percent
Nonresident Alien	0.3 percent

STUDENT STATUS

Full-time	30.4 percent
Part-time	69.6 percent
Employed during enrollment	70.0 percent

GENDER

Female	58 percent
Male	42 percent

AGE

Students over 27	50 percent
Students over 40	20 percent

Average age 31 years

Over 33,000 of the students enrolled in community colleges last year had previously earned baccalaureate or higher degrees.

Last year, over [illegible] percent of occupational market program graduates who were on the job found employment, many within their college district.

The cost of education, when adjusted for inflation, has changed little in the last ten years. The cost to educate a full-time student is $3,500 per year, with full-time students paying only $1,000 in tuition and fees.

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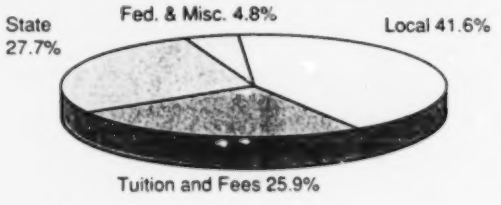
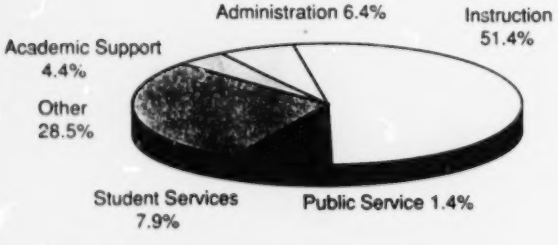
OPERATING FUNDS

Community Colleges receive operating funds from three primary sources: state grants, local taxes, and student tuition and fees. The portion of operating funds contributed from each source in fiscal year 1992 was 41.6 percent from local taxes, 27.7 percent from state sources, 25.9 percent from student tuition and fees, and 4.8 percent from federal and miscellaneous sources. In contrast, 1987 was 37.4 percent from local taxes, 34.8 percent from state sources, 23.1 percent from student tuition and fees, and 4.7 percent from federal and miscellaneous sources.

FY 1992 Sources of Revenue

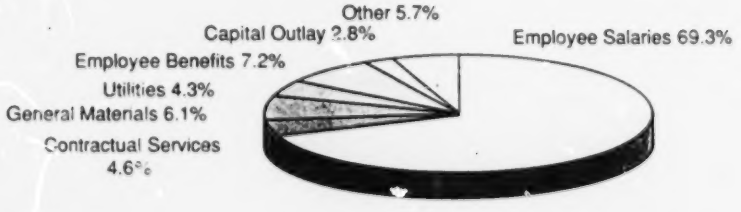


The primary function of community colleges is to provide comprehensive and diverse educational opportunities for its constituents. Expenditures for instruction comprise over one-half of the operating expenditures for community colleges. Expenditures for employee salaries represent over two-thirds of community college operating costs.



Other includes: Operation and maintenance costs, institutional support, and independent operations

FY1992 Operating Expenditures for Community Colleges



Other includes: travel costs, fixed charges, and other miscellanious expenditures

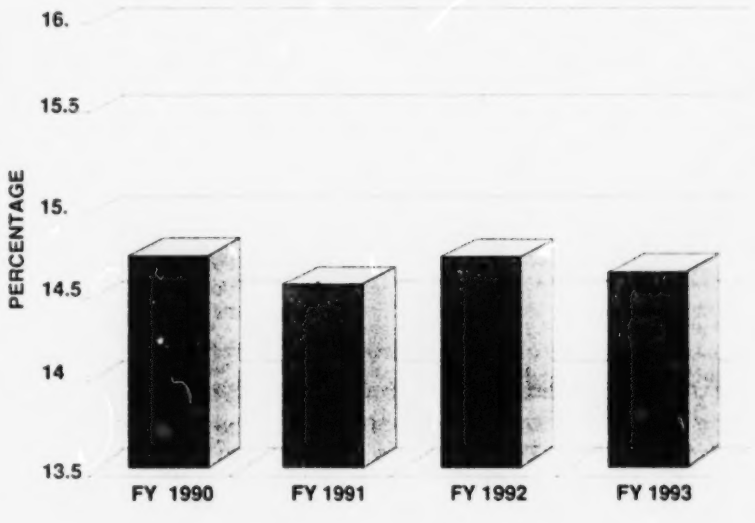
In fiscal year 1993, community colleges received approximately $217 million in restricted and unrestricted grants. Unrestricted (credit hour and equalization) grants comprised over 90 percent of these funds, or nearly $200 million. The remaining monies support various restricted grant programs including the special populations grant, the workforce preparation grant, the advanced technology equipment grant, and the retirees health insurance grant. This total state (ICCB) grant funding to community colleges reflects nearly $2 million less than the amount received by community colleges in fiscal year 1990.

TOTAL GRANTS TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Grant	FY 1990	FY 1993
Credit Hour	$159,755,400	$153,585,800
Equalization	40,040,500	43,535,100
Special Populations	9,400,000	9,308,500
Workforce Preparation	3,500,000	3,723,400
Advanced Tech. Equipment	3,500,000	3,537,200
Retirees Health Insurance	2,567,300	2,140,900
New District Development	250,000	1,209,800
Total Grants	$219,013,200	$217,040,700

Share of Higher Ed Funding for Community Colleges

The actual state funding received by community colleges, particularly in recent years, has not fully supported the increased demands being placed on community colleges. In the period from FY 90 to FY 93, community college enrollments increased by 7.4 percent, while funding has decreased by .8 percent.



Facilities are a crucial component of the community college system. It is estimated that the cost to replace the facilities at all community college campuses would be over $1.5 billion. Colleges are faced with the task of maintaining and adapting their existing facilities to conform with current needs and standards. Limited state and local funding has forced many colleges to defer much needed maintenance. As a consequence, a problem of significantly greater magnitude is being created.

A 1992 Illinois Community College Board study identified accumulated deferred maintenance among community colleges at $80 million. Over 85 percent of the colleges responding on this issue claimed that current operation and maintenance funding will not stop the deferral of maintenance projects. Capital renewal grants to community colleges are designed to address this problem. However, no funding was provided in fiscal year 1992 and only $2.7 million has been appropriated for these grants in fiscal year 1993.

An initiative to extend educational opportunities to underserved regions of the state, as well as reduce the demand for on-campus facilities and provide quality education at alternate sites, is underway through the development of a statewide higher education telecommunications system.

Accountability

Each year, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) adopts goals to direct its own activities and those of its staff. The remainder of this report concentrates on the Board's goals, which are consistent with the goals of the General Assembly and the state of Illinois.

The Illinois community college system is a leader in accountability. We recognize that cost-effectiveness and accountability have become increasingly important to policymakers and to the citizens of our state. The Illinois Community College Board is working diligently to ensure that the resources provided to our colleges are well spent.

EDUCATIONAL GUARANTEES:

We Guarantee Quality!

Early in 1992, the Illinois Community College Board adopted a plan to implement "educational guarantees" in the community college system, and Illinois became the first state in the nation to implement the concept systemwide. Simply put, guarantees provide that graduates of guaranteed programs will obtain and will perform the technical skills required by their employer, or they may enroll, at no cost, in courses necessary to gain these skills. Many colleges also are applying the guarantee concept to their transfer programs, ensuring that course credits will transfer or students' tuition will be refunded. Educational guarantees send a strong message that community colleges offer quality instruction that is responsive to the workplace. In short, community colleges stand behind their "product."

ENHANCED STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES

In the spring of 1992, the General Assembly passed legislation (P.A. 87-1023) initiated by the Illinois Community College Board which was designed to further enhance our efforts toward increased accountability. The legislation authorizes the ICCB to:

- Establish uniform financial accounting and reporting standards by July 1, 1997.
- Approve or disapprove cooperative agreements between community colleges and other educational institutions.
- Discontinue programs which fail to reflect the educational needs of the community being served.

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QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Board coordinates program approval processes to assure that every occupational program offered at a community college meets quality standards, is justified by labor market needs, and is cost-effective. Programs are subsequently subject to regular review to ensure that they continue to meet these standards.

Community college curricula and services must continue to be vital and responsive to the needs of our communities, through continuous efforts to add, consolidate, eliminate, and/or improve programs and services.

The Illinois Community College Board held a conference entitled "Accountability: Meeting the Challenge" in November 1992 for over 300 participants. Representatives from every segment of the college community met together to address their role in providing accountability and cost-effectiveness in higher education.

REWARDING EXCELLENCE

In May of 1992, the Board presented awards to the **College of DuPage**, **Joliet Junior College,** and **Moraine Valley Community College** for "Excellence in Cost Reduction and Cost-Effectiveness." Their unique and innovative programs achieved significant cost savings. A Special Recognition Award was presented to **Richland Community College** for its successful cooperative effort in combining energy efficiency and savings with Archer Daniel's Midland Comapny.

In 1993, the Board chose to focus the award on institution-wide accountability plans. In January, five colleges were recognized for their exemplary efforts to improve the quality of education for their students. The "Awards for Excellence in Institutional Quality" were presented to **Joliet Junior College, Lewis & Clark Community College, Prairie State College, McHenry County College, and Parkland College.** These colleges successfully incorporated planning and implementation on a broad-based, multidimensional scale to achieve better management, cost-effectiveness, enhanced student services, and greater community involvement.

. . ."every occupational program offered at a community college meets quality standards, is justified by labor market needs, and is cost-effective."

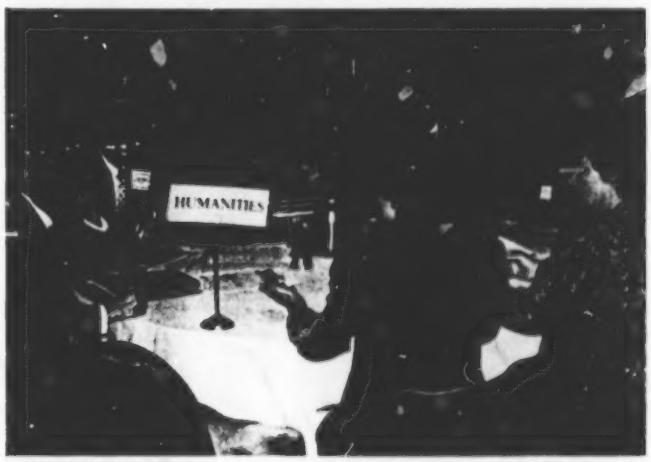
Articulation

"Strong articulation between community colleges and senior colleges and universities improves both the quality and the cost effectiveness of education for students, higher education, and the state."

Each year, over 200,000 students enroll in community colleges with the intention of later transferring to a four-year college or university to complete a bachelor's degree. Therefore, officials of community colleges and universities must ensure that students are able to transfer as smoothly as possible and with no less of credits already completed.

The Illinois Community College Board recognizes the significance of the community college transfer function and has identified articulation as a priority goal. Strong articulation between community colleges and senior colleges and universities improves both the quality and the cost effectiveness of education for students, higher education, and the state.

In May 1992, an important collaboration between universities and community colleges began. The Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education cosponsored an articulation conference focusing on the importance of articulation as a public policy mandate. This was the first statewide conference of its type bringing together over 225 administrators, faculty, and students.



PAVING THE WAY FOR TRANSFER

A major articulation initiative has been launched to make it easier for students to transfer from community colleges to universities in Illinois. The major objective of the initiative is to achieve statewide consensus on lower-division courses that will meet general education and major field requirements; in this way, colleges can ensure that courses that are well articulated are offered and those that are not can be eliminated. Teams of 112 faculty from community colleges and universities will determine courses for each area of study such as mathematics, science, communications, and humanities.

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. . . "the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching concluded that community college faculty have the clearest sense of purpose of any sector of higher education."

In 1991, the Illinois Community College Board took a leadership role in identifying and developing substance abuse, prevention, and education initiatives in community college districts. The Board is an active partner with other state-level prevention agencies and task forces, serving on the Governor's Forum on Substance Abuse and the Substance Abuse Strategy Board. The ICCB has developed and distributed a "Best Practices Guide: Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Programs for Illinois Community Colleges," which provides technical assistance to community colleges in developing policies and prevention programs on their campuses.

PROVIDING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON CAMPUSES AND COMMUNITIES

The ICCB established the "Substance Abuse Education and Prevention Award" to recognize exemplary prevention programs around the state. **Elgin Community College, College of Lake County, and South Suburban College** were chosen as leaders in drug and alcohol education and prevention efforts. A substantial number of our community colleges have joined the nationwide Network of Colleges and Universities Committed to the Elimination of Drugs and Alcohol Abuse. This network, over 1300 member institutions strong, has been established with the purpose of finding workable solutions to the problem of alcohol and other drug abuse on our campuses and in our communities.

TEACHING /LEARNING RESEARCH

Community colleges have built their reputation on emphasizing excellence in teaching and learning. They create an environment which makes learning enjoyable and which motivates students to strive for excellence. In fact, a nationwide survey conducted by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching concluded that community college faculty have the clearest sense of purpose of any sector of higher education.

The combined elements of small class size, quality instruction with the finest teaching methods, and faculty devoted to teaching enable the community colleges to offer exceptional, individualized attention to students. Community college professors incorporate the use of computers and interactive telecommunication to provide students with immediate feedback, positive reinforcement, and other proven principles of learning.

Many innovative teaching and learning initiatives were shared among community college faculty at a statewide conference on Teaching/Learning Excellence. The 1992 conference, sponsored by the ICCB and the Illinois Community College Faculty Association (ICCFA), was held to advance the teaching and learning focus in community colleges. Over 120 community college faculty and administrators collaborated on methods for further improving the teaching/learning process.

The ICCB has been making it a practice to recognize exemplary efforts by colleges who seek to improve quality through ingenuity and experimentation. In March of 1992, the Board awarded **Illinois Central College, Waubonsee Community College,** and **Oakton Community College** with the "Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning." In October, the fiscal year 1993 awards were presented to **College of Lake County, Joliet Junior College, and Olney Central College.** Community colleges continue to demonstrate their ability to respond to the diverse educational needs of their students and keep quality as their hallmark.

Telecommunications

Illinois community colleges are taking a leadership role in developing and implementing a statewide telecommunications network with an ultimate goal of enhancing educational opportunities for our citizens statewide.

The ICCB Task Force on Telecommunications has issued a report which recommends a policy direction for development of a statewide telecommunications network to connect all the community colleges. Approximately 25 districts now use or plan to install one or more technologies for instructional delivery. Currently, the systems include interactive computer, broadband, microwave, instructional television fixed service (ITFS), compressed video, satellite transmission, and cable television.

CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH THE FUTURE

The first phase toward establishing a statewide network is to connect the local systems currently in operation and those planned for implementation in the future. The ability to interconnect a variety of technologies – microwave, satellite, or fiberoptic cable – already exists. Next, compatible local and regional systems can be designed, allowing students to access opportunities from any district in the state.

Community colleges, working in partnership with four-year colleges and universities in regional and subsequent statewide telecommunications systems, will maximize the benefits of an interconnected network. Elementary and secondary schools, businesses, and governmental agencies also will be served by the network and will be linked by investing in the necessary telecommunications equipment and adopting comparable technical standards. A system of **edu-communicating** will ensure the best educational system for all citizens of our state.

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Workforce Preparation

. . . "we must assure that there are enough good jobs for capable Illinoisans; we must also assure that there are enough capable Illinoisans for the good jobs."

Despite the economic expansion of the 1970s and 1980s in the United States, the standard of living did not improve for most American workers; real earnings for the top 30 percent of the population increased, but earnings for the bottom 70 percent declined affecting mostly youth, women, and minorities.

In order to improve the living standards of American workers, businesses must improve their competitiveness with improved work organization and new technologies. The Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce summarized the challenge America faces in *America's Choice*. The choice is "high skills or low wages; continued deterioration in the standard of living; or major changes in the way we organize our workplaces and a major investment in the skills of our people."

- 40 percent of the U.S. workforce must be trained to achieve a 3 percent productivity growth rate by 1995.
- By the year 2000, 75 percent of all workers currently employed will need retraining.

THIS IS WHAT COMMUNITY COLLEGES ARE ABOUT!

In Illinois, Governor Edgar believes "we must assure that there are enough good jobs for capable Illinoisans; we must also assure that there are enough capable Illinoisans for the good jobs." To meet the economic challenges of the 21st century, Illinois must have a world class workforce.

Illinois community colleges represent a strategic statewide resource that promotes the training and retraining of the Illinois' citizenry and serves new and expanding businesses.

OCCUPATIONAL POSSIBILITIES

Approximately **272,000 students** are enrolled annually in occupational education, comprising over **39 percent** of students in community colleges and **56 percent** of those who earn degrees or certificates.

Illinoisans can enter or advance in **240 different occupational specialties** through community college occupational programs and customized training programs for business and industry. Business, industry, and community colleges collaborate as partners to design programs and courses that specifically meet labor market demand. Through this partnership, community colleges can provide training and skills needed for changing technologies in an ever-changing workplace.

A recent survey of occupational students one year after graduation indicates **88.5 percent were employed**. Of those employed full-time, average salaries ranged from $12,480 to $29,036.

ADULT EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Adult basic and secondary education and literacy instruction are offered in every community college in the state. They encompass a wide range of instruction, from one-on-one tutoring of basic skills, life and job skills, and workplace and family literacy programs.

The ICCB established **Centers of Excellence in Adult Education as a bridge** to serve as exemplary model programs for the delivery of adult basic and adult secondary education. Each Center will promote new methods of education, including a strong emphasis on the use of technology, to ensure that individuals deficient in basic skills such as reading, writing, computing, and communication can achieve these skills and, thereby, achieve success in their personal, academic, and career goals. These stellar programs are evidence of the system's commitment to transitioning students from adult education into further education (associate degrees, baccalaureate, master's, or Ph.D), or training for the workforce.

The seven community colleges designated as Centers of Excellence in Adult Education are **City Colleges of Chicago – Malcolm X College, College of DuPage, Illinois Central College, College of Lake County, Richland Community College, South Suburban College,** and **Waubonsee Community College.**

More than **150,000 adult education students** lacking basic skills enroll each year at over 800 on and off-campus locations within the state's 40 community college districts.

OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

The ICCB, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Aid, developed and implemented a pilot program, "Opportunities," for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) at ten community college sites. Designed to meet the requirements of the federal Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) Program, "Opportunities" emphasizes a comprehensive educational program that focuses on long-term employment goals. Its intent is to better serve increasing numbers of the state's undereducated and underemployed populations to eliminate duplication in the provision of programs and service, and to better access the federal JOBS set-aside funds for Illinois.

Illinois is focusing on education at community colleges as the primary means to move individuals off welfare rolls. Community colleges have always provided a variety of educational and training programs to a diverse student population and are, therefore, appropriate major players in Illinois' JOBS Program.

JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT (JTPA)

The federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) directs funding to states to provide job training for economically disadvantaged individuals. The ICCB receives a portion (25 percent) of the JTPA Education Coordination and Grants for distribution to community colleges. Over the past eight years, the system has developed and implemented extremely successful programs to serve individuals with diverse ethnic and educational backgrounds.

ICCB grants have helped community colleges sponsor cooperative working relationships among employment and training providers, ensuring nonduplication of programs and services.

Focus on the Future

As we swiftly approach the 21st century, the ICCB and the community college system will continue to provide accessible, affordable, quality education in a cost-effective manner. With increasing emphasis on consortial and collaborative arrangements involving education, government, and business and industry, we will address the identified needs of a highly diverse population. Utilizing state-of-the-art technologies, we will be creating **learning communities** which will enable us to improve education while reducing its costs. The following are specific activities already on the drawing board.

- The establishment of a telecommunications network will be a major thrust for the community college system both in the areas of interactive video for instructional delivery and the efficient transmission of data. This effort has the support and participation of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Governor's office, and members of the General Assembly.

- The Board and system will continue to define workforce preparation as an area critical not only to the community college system, but to the state as a whole. In addition to the initiatives summarized earlier in this report, the Board will be working to encourage a regional delivery educational system to promote the concept of Workforce/Modernization/Technology Centers at community colleges, school-to-work transition efforts, college services to prepare older persons for re-entry into the workforce, and the development of emerging technology curricula.

- The system is committed to developing a more accountable operation as it seeks to identify additional outcomes that measure the successes of its various programs and their delivery. New measures of cost effectiveness also will be tested. Our statewide program for guaranteeing community college graduates will be expanded. The focus of all these efforts is the improvement of teaching and learning.

By working together and coordinating the finest in technical and professional expertise, by sharing our many resources, and by being faithful stewards of taxpayers' money, we will continue to operate as an exemplary system of higher education for the benefit of all of Illinois.

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